TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER, 1998

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Bud Hughes K4CWG 269-0779 SECRETARY: Nancy Marsden KD4ITX 268-3990
V. PRESIDENT: Pike Abell W4EPU 269-4208 TREASURER: Clyde Lee K4EOS 267-9375

CLUB INFORMATION

TARC MEETINGS :	**Monthly on 4th Tuesday at 1900 hrs at Jaycee Building.**
TARC NETS:	**VIP - Thursdays at 1000 hrs on 146.910**
	FRIENDSHIP - Thursdays at 1830 hrs. on146.910
	MOSQUITO - Wednesdays at 1900 hrs on 28.333
TARC REPEATERS:	**VHF - 146.910 and146.970. UHF 444.150**

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Bud Hughes K4CWG

I am reminded again how this club of ours rally together when events such as Field Day, Hamfest, Christmas Parade and many other club sponsored events come about. Thanks to all of you who put in so much of your time to make the 1998 TARC HAMFEST one of the best. I have had several attendees of the event to tell me this one was very good. These comments are the results of your efforts.

I will forego the naming of members who's contribution made this hamfest the best ever because there would not be space available. I am thankful for your assistance and hope each of you enjoyed the fest as much as I.

I want to express my thanks and appreciation to the officers and board members who served their club so well during the 1998 term.

All officers and board members are to be recognized for their splendid service. Pike, W4EPU our outgoing Vice President, provided much needed leadership. His ability, humor and wit were most welcomed. To Pike, my friend, many many thanks.

To our outgoing Treasurer Clyde, K4EOS, we extend our most grateful thanks. Our club has been fortunate to have the services of this member for several years. We are not losing his services as Clyde will be assisting his wife, Becky, KF4HTB with her duties of this office as well as those of TARC Newsletter editor. I know of no one in the club who has worked harder nor put as much time into this club as has Clyde. Clyde, you are a true cornerstone of this club.

To the newly and reelected officers and board members, welcome and congratulations. I am blessed again with a wonderful group of fellow hams to work with during the 1999 term. The new slate of elected (see page 6)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

DEC. 2 KF4NSX CHRIS MARSDEN
DEC. 2 WB4ZUZ THERESA VALEK
DEC. 2 NE4XT BILL DIMEO
DEC. 3 KS4FB TED LARRABEE
DEC. 6 K4DVW DICK STAUFFER
DEC. 6 N4LEM RAY KASSIS
DEC. 7 KF4HTC SHERRY HUGHES
DEC. 8 KE4KCT CHARLES FROST
DEC. 8 WN4YKC DON HATFIELD
DEC. 9 KC4VIO JOSE RAMOS
DEC. 10 KC4UUX ALAN MARSDEN
DEC. 11 KB4BHS GLENN LEE
DEC. 11 KU4NR CHUCK MANION
DEC. 12 AF4N WES WHITLEY
DEC. 15 KF4IGO JUNE FOSTER
DEC. 16 N3BSH JOHN MANOS
DEC. 16 W0LRC COFFEE COFFMAN
DEC. 18 AC4DY TOM BURNS
DEC. 18 KF4LTW TOM VICK
DEC. 19 W8OFR GENE HALL
DEC. 20 KE4WWO MATTIE ADAMS
DEC. 20 KF4QIP MICHAEL ALBRO
DEC. 20 KE4MWY DAN CHYCOTA
DEC. 21 KD4RLT WILLIAM MERRILL
DEC. 24 N4SCY OZZIE OSBAND
DEC. 25 W3STS JESS LEGRAND
DEC. 29 KE4EJ SANDY WHITLEY

QUESTIONS?????

By Ira Bickham, K8HRR

Just recently I was asked, why do we activate for NASA launches? Well for one reason, the people at emergency management tasked us with the job. After the Delta explosion and the accompanying problems, they felt it would be a good idea to at least have a few people up just in case. Also they decided they would bring up the EOC during each and every launch. The other prime reason I could think of at the time was member training. We need to shake out the system on a regular basis and this fits into that category. Besides, aren't we in the business of preparing for any situation at any time?

I know there are people out there that only want to be activated for a REAL emergency and that's fine. But, there are times when we need to be proactive. That's called mitigation and means reducing the impact of an incident, natural or man made. If we have a few people in place before anything happens we will be ahead of the game. If nothing happens then we have the experience of another drill. We respond for Walkathons, races, parades and other public service events, so why not launches?

We are volunteers and do not have to respond unless we desire to do so. So it is up to you whether you show up or not. There are many that will show up whenever asked for any reason whatever and it is those folks that make it work. We are presently on good relations with emergency management, Public Safety (Fire Dep't) and most law enforcement agencies. AND IT IS YOUR PARTICIPATION THAT MAKES IT SO!! I feel that when I am in the bunker and they ask us (BEARS) to do something, that we can do it. If I felt that I didn't have the support of the hams in BEARS behind me I wouldn't go near the place!! IT IS YOUR EFFORTS THAT MAKE IT WORK, not mine. I'm just your mouthpiece. Many thanks for your efforts. Keep it up. BEARS is one of the reasons I get up in the morning. If any of you feel

the need to speak to me directly, call me at 452-2309. (Submitted by Ralph, AE4LE)

AMATEUR RADIO ALERT

Please read the following as it may not only impact you, but will determine the future of amateur radio in the Central Florida Area.

I have personally been involved in a 2-1/2 year battle with Seminole County over amateur radio antenna heights. During this time, many clubs and individual amateur radio operators have tried to inform and work out a local ordinance with Seminole County. Seminole County worked with other nearby counties to produce an ordinance which they think will allow amateur radio antennas to only be as high as 35 feet. Seminole County has already changed their ordinance in an effort to (they believe) meet PRB-1 and they still do not allow any amateur radio antennas to be greater than 35 feet.

I have taken my request for an 80 foot amateur radio tower through every administrative procedure. I have been in contact with the ARRL and a number of attorneys who have directed me as to what action to take, so that we as amateur radio operators would be in the best position for a Federal court battle.

On October 27, 1998, the Seminole Board of Commissioners denied my request of a "Special Exception," to permit an 80 ft. high amateur radio tower. This ruling will have a major impact on every amateur radio operator in Florida if left unchallenged. That is why we have now hired a special Federal Attorney (ARRL recommended) to take the case to the Federal level. There has never been a case from any of the Southern states that has actually gone to the Federal level. Once ruled upon, this case will set the standard for not only Florida, but also the region. The ARRL's Federal Attorneys in Washington have already stated that they will be putting together a "Friend of the court brief". Attorneys have informed me that we have a better than a 95% chance of winning and setting the standard by which all other ordinances will be judged.

This brings me to where each of you can help. I was informed that I only have 30 days to raise $5000 in order for the Federal attorney to file the complaint. If I do not make that date then the 2-1/2 year process would have to start all over again. I have spent untold hours and many thousands of dollars so far. Up until this point, the case did not have interest beyond the local area (stated to me by ARRL). Now that the case is going to Federal Court, the outcome will effect all of us. The ARRL feels that this is the best case to show the local governments thoroughout the Southeast that PRB-1 must be followed. To date, there have been fourteen landmark cases relative to PRB-1 (none in our district). This would be the fifteenth landmark case.

If each amateur radio operator could send in a check for even $10.00 or $20.00, this would go a long way in helping all of us win this case. Please make your check payable to "Lenard Persin, (legal fund)". Send your donation to one of the following addresses:

Lenard Persin, 501 Brookside Cir., Maitland, FL 32751 or Piper, Ludin, Howie &Werner, P. A., 5720 Central Ave., St. Petersburg, FL 33707

If you have any questions please call one of the numbers listed below:

Lenard Persin at 407-644-8444 or 407-629-5267
Eric Ludin at 813-344-1111
John Hennessee (ARRL) at 860-594-0236

Thank you for your help in advance.

Lenard J. Persin, WB4HZQ

PROTECTING OUR LEGACY

From 11/98 QST

The simple fact that Amateur Radio exists, never ceases to amaze me. We tend to take for granted that as private individuals, we can buy or build radio transmitters and can use them to talk to our counterparts around town, across the country, on the other side of the world - even to an astronaut or cosmonaut in space. It could easily have been different. We might never have known these pleasures.

At the dawn of the age of radio early in this century, there were powerful forces that opposed the use of radio by amateurs. Radio was for commerce, for maritime safety, or for the military. Surely, these purposes were too important to risk interference from mere hobbyists!

What if no one had accepted the challenge to answer such arguments? What if the earliest radio amateurs had not compiled a record of service to the public and to their country? What if amateur experimenters had not been the first to appreciate the true value of the short waves? What if, having recognized 75 years ago that radio would become a global medium, the amateurs of that time had not bothered to organize on a global basis to protect their interests?

What if? The answer is stark, simple, and unpleasant: You and I would have missed out on the enrichment that Amateur Radio has brought to our lives. We owe past generations of radio amateurs an enormous debt. The only way we can repay that debt is to protect their legacy - not only for ourselves, but for future generations.

This is the vision that for decades has guided the leaders of the ARRL. As a League member, you share in that vision. You understand why the ARRL exists, why it supports the work of the International Amateur Radio Union, and why your dues must pay for more than QST magazine and the individual services you receive as a member. You know why the ARRL Board of Directors created the Fund for the Defense of Amateur Radio Frequencies, so we could be sure there would always be funds available to do what is necessary to defend our precious access to the radio spectrum.

If you have been following what's happening in the wider world of telecommunications, you know that the challenges facing Amateur Radio and the ARRL have never been greater. The Internet is changing how we work and live, including how we pursue our radio avocation. Digital personal communications systems are being developed all across the country and around the world. Satellite telephones are about to take a great leap forward, bringing reliable mobile phone service to the farthest reaches of the planet. Digital television is on the way.

That's not all. The Little LEOs - low-cost, low-speed data satellites - are still hungering for frequencies around our most popular VHF and UHF bands. There's a push to find spectrum around 430 Mhz for a satellite-borne radar to monitor the environment. Companies wanting to sell wireless local area networks are looking for more access to the spectrum. Futuristic intelligent transportation systems need allocations. Radio-astronomers want more protection for their sensitive receivers. On top of that, some politicians still think that auctioning off the radio spectrum is a way to generate "free money."

You may have heard that the next ITU World Radiocommunication Conference will be held in the year 2000 insterad of 1999. That may sound like a long delay, but it isn't - the postponement is for less than six months. You may have heard that some issues have been put off until 2001 or later, so the need to prepare may seem less urgent. It isn't. Those who seek more spectrum access at our expense are hard at work developing their justifications, and we must work just as hard. Having a longer time to prepare simply means that the volunteers and staff who perform this work on your behalf under the ARRL and IARU banners have more meetings to cover, more papers to read and write, more technical studies to perform.

I have just written to every ARRL member in the United States, asking that they support the Fund for the Defense of Amateur Radio Frequencies with a voluntary contribution, above and beyond their membership fees. When you receive the letter, please respond as generously as you can.

In protecting our legacy, we can afford to do no less than our best. The access to the radio spectrum that we enjoy is a priceless national and international resource. If we lose, it, we lose it forever. *David Sumner, K1ZZ*

(You can also contribute on line at the ARRL Web site at http://www.arrl.org/forms/f//defense.html

REPAIR IT YOURSELF

From 12/98 QST "Technical Correspondence"

Recently I turned on my trusty Drake TR7A transceiver, tried transmitting and got zero output! Talk about getting gray hairs! To say the least, this was disheartening! I'm one of those hams who insists on repairing his own gear, but I have to admit I was a little worried about tearing into my trusty Drake. Would I fix it or make it worse? Out of curiosity I called the service technicians at Drake and explained my situation. Hooray! They still fix antiques like mine! I asked for a "guesstimation" of the cost. The answwer was a shock! Now I was more determined than ever to solve the problem myself. Nowadays, who can afford to drop $200 to $300 for such service? Besides, we hams are supposed to be able to do it ourselves. So, I decided to attempt to do just that.

I disassembled the rig on a clean table and used some empty olive jars to save the *many* screws. That job proceeded quickly and soon something caught my eye: Fuzz! The cooling fan had sucked tons of the yucky stuff into the radio. At the time, I didn't know what this might have to do with my problem, but I figured the fuzz had to come out so I could see what I was doing. Initially, the nasty stuff resisted my efforts to remove it. Most of what little I could remove went up my nose. Thinking back to an old magazine article I had read about restoring antique radio equipment, I borrowed one of my XYL's small paintbrushes and rolled the vacuum cleaner out of the closet.

CLEANING UP:

To do this you will need a vacuum cleaner with a detachable hose. The procedure is simple: You hold the hose near the fuzz you want to slurp out and use the brush to work the fuzz loose. Getting rid of the fuzz makes the insides of your rig look like new! And in my case, the fuzz removal also made the rig work like new! One too many years worth of crud in the radio causing short circuits, I guess.

Surprisingly, using the same procedure, I fixed a problem with an old 2-meter radio that I put back into operation on the Air Force Mars repeater. Two rigs fixed in one week!

Because you already have the rig open, it doesn't hurt to give some of the dusty controls a blast of tuner cleaner or lubricant. So before you spend the time and money to send your equipment to a repair shop, try cleaning it out! Even it it doesn't fix your problem, it will make the job of the repair technician a little easier. Who knows - maybe the technician will have a little mercy when figuring out the bill! *Jay Craswell, W0VNE*

THE SIX MISTAKES OF MAN

1. The delusion that personal gain is made by crushing others.
2. The tendency to worry about things that cannot be changed or corrected.
3 Insisting that a thing is impossible because we cannot accomplish it.
4. Refusing to set aside trivial preferences.
5. Neglecting development and refinement of the mind, and not acquiring the habit of reading and studying.
6. Attempting to compel others to believe and live as we do.

ABELL'S ANECDOTES

By Pike Abell W4EPU

I recently celebrated my 80th birthday.
Actually, I was three years old when John Glenn was born.
Things that are history to some people are current events to me.
They say you are only as old as you feel. If that is true, I must be 150.
Sometimes Clara tells me to act my age. I'm afraid if I do I'll expire.
I am noticing somewhat of an aging or slowing down process.
I still have fun at parties - up to about 8:00 PM.
I can go at least an hour without aspirin, antacid, metamucil.
When we are traveling the first thing I look for on the road map is rest areas.
I am usually interested in going home before we get to wherever it is we are going. Although I do all right traveling as long as I can have by bran, prunes and raisins.
I can't say I don't have a care in the world. I have health care, eye care, dental care, etc. Not only that, but I don't care.
I am really in the initial stages of life, i. e AARP, HMO, CD's, etc
I noticed I am becoming anti a lot of things. Anti-fat, anti-noise, anti-biotic, anti-histamine.....
I can now tell you what goes on behing closed doors - not much.
I'm a walking encyclopedia. I just can't remember where I stored the books.
When you are talking I am smiling because I only hear about half what you are saying.
I am not really an impatient person. I just don't like traffic, waiting in lines, crowds, or politicians.
I have trouble remembering simple words like.....
I notice they are making adults much younger these days.
Finally, I now realize that getting old is not for sissies.
73s es 88s

PRESIDENT .....from page 1
officers and board members is listed on Page 7 in the November minutes. The elected officers and board members will be installed into office at the TARC annual Christmas dinner.

The Christmas dinner will be held at the Jaycees Building on Sunday, Dec. 13 at 5:30 P. M. Tickets are $7.50 each and are available from Sherry, KF4HTC. (269-0779)

Titusville Amateur Radio Club's monthly Test Session will be held on December 21 (3rd Monday) at 6:00 P. M. at Expedient Services, 2459 Cheney Hwy., 267-3450.

See you at the TARC Christmas Dinner.

BLAME IT ON THE CAT.....

Cat sits on mike, activates 146.91 repeater. Repeater times out.

TARC Fox Hunting Team hits the trail.

Not all trails lead to fox. (Just ask one foxhunter named Bud).

Cat takes nap. Repeater continues to time out.

Fox hunters pay visits to many innocent dens.

Cat gets off mike. Repeater restored to normal operations.

Fox hunters go home.

Fox hunters now in search of an individual who would be interested in teaching a cat the dos and don'ts of the FCC rules and regulations as related to amateur radio.

End of story.

NOVEMBER MEETING

By Nancy KD4ITX

The monthly meeting was called to order at 1915 hours by Bud, K4CWG, President. Following the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence, 31 members and guests introduced themselves.

Pike asked members to cast their ballots for Ham of the Year. The winner will be announced at the Christmas Party.

Elections were held for Officers and Board of Directors for 1999. The new officers will be:

President: Bud Hughes K4CWG
Vice President: Ozzie Osband, N4SCY
Secretary: Nancy Marsden, KD4ITX
Treasurer: Becky Lee, KF4HTB
Directors: John Renninger, KE4ZPA
Ken Denman, KD4HNW
Sherry Hughes, KF4HTC
Grant Hahne, KF4IGK

Bud gave his thanks to everyone for a job well done on a great Hamfest. It was a huge success. Thanks again for all the help.

The Jaycees's Christmas Parade will be December 5. The club will be helping them, so come out and give your support.

The TARC Christmas party will be December 13, at 5:30 PM. It will be held at the Jaycee's building. Nancy, KD4ITX and Sherry, KF4HTC have tickets. It is $7.50 per person. Hope to see you there for an evening of good company and the installation of the new officers and board members. Tickets must be purchased by December 10.

HATS OFF.....

To a job well done by TARC members at the launch October 29th. The following volunteers are to be recognized for having done such a fine job and for being ready to do a much larger job ii the necessity had arisen.

David Creasman, AC4JX; Bud Hughes, K4CWG; Les Griner, K4SJC; Pike Abell, W4EPU; Clara Abell, KE4YQL; Clyde Lee, K4EOS; Becky Lee, KF4HTB; John Phelps, KF4YFD; John Renninger, KE4ZPA; Pat Renninger, KF4LTY; Les Widick, K4BZJ; Pat Widick, KF4IGB; Bob Nedimyer, W4VQB; Jimmy Edwards, KF4ZOL; Marty Coin, WD4JNM; Ozzie Osband, N4SCY; Ken Hitchcock, KB0OQJ; Warren Murray, AF4EA; Sandy Whitley, KE4EJ; Chuck Manion, KU4NR; Ralph Hall, AE4LE

ORLANDO HAMFEST TICKETS

I HAVE A FEW TICKETS FOR SALE WHICH I WILL BRING TO THE NEXT TWO CLUB MEETINGS MEETING. THEY ARE $7.00 ($9.00 AT DOOR). PLEASE BRING EXACT CHANGE TO PURCHASE

CLYDE - K4E0S

TREASURERS REPORT

By Clyde Lee K4EOS

Balance Forward From 1997	$5356.73
Deposits Year to Date	6799.97
TOTAL INCOME	**12156.70**
Expenditures	5419.33
BALANCE AS AT 10/29/98	**6737.37**
FEMA Escrow	1449.32
BALANCE-CLUB FUNDS	**$5288.05**

TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
P. O. BOX 73
TITUSVILLE FL 32781-0073

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Total membership: 252 (180 regular, 61 family,11 honorary)

NEW MEMBERS: AMANDA LEE SIMONA
NEUIO GEORGE LLOYD
KG4AJS JOY McCALL

RENEWALS: KT4CQ BILL SIMANO
AF4DP BERNIE FLANAGAN
WD4EBA PAUL BERNHARDT
AA4FY NORM FOSTER
KF4IGO JUNE FOSTER
KD4GPE JOE MEYERS
W9IOS BILL KARR
WD8JLT BRIAN SONNENBERG
K4KON BRUCE HOOVER
N4MOD JIM HARRIS
AB4NT ARNOLD THRASH
NA4QJK TOM McCALL
KU4TF ERIC HEARD
KB4UDB EMILY WALBROEHL
KC4VIO JOSE RAMOS
KC4VIN CAROL RAMOS
AC4WM MITCH MATHENY
K4WSE JOHN WOOD

HAMFESTS:

DEC. 5	OKEECHOBE
DEC.12	LAKE CITY
JAN.9/10	FT. MEYERS
JAN.16	CRYSTAL RIVER
JAN.16	W. PALM/LANTANA
JAN.30	ARCADIA
FEB. 6	PENSACOLA
FEB.6/7	MIAMI
FEB.13/14	ORLANDO